

(Updated Wednesday, November 18th, 2015)

ANGLERS DODGE WEATHER

By Steve McCadams

Kentucky Lake's fishing scene has yielded to the weather change this week. Most anglers are staying indoors or dodging the high winds, rain and falling temperatures somewhere other than out on the lake.

Last weekend and earlier this week conditions were pretty good for fall fishing but that all changed Tuesday when gale force winds preceded heavy rains that night and throughout the day on Wednesday. Cooler temperatures are in the forecast for the weekend and well into next week before moderate temps return but it appears rain is not part of the picture for a spell.

Lake levels have been staying just below the normal winter pool mark for several consecutive weeks but watch for some increase in elevation in the aftermath of heavy rains across the region at midweek. Some areas received two or more inches of rain Monday night and got another drenching Tuesday night and Wednesday morning so a lot of water is entering the watershed.

TVA had been keeping the reservoir around the 354.6 range at Kentucky Dam and a few inches lower than that upstream at New Johnsonville. Watch for a slow rise to occur throughout the weekend however. Projections for the weekend see a slight rise back to the 355 range for a few days before a slight decline begins.

Surface temperatures have been in the 60 to 62 degree range but will fall back into the upper 50's by this weekend as cooler nights influence things. Temps are expected to drop at night below the freezing mark this weekend so no doubt cooler surface temps are ahead.

Prior to the weather change earlier in the week some crappie anglers scored decent catches. Several fish were taken in midrange depths of 8 to 14 feet out on the main lake areas and back in some bays as well.

Most of the better catches were coming from anglers tightlining jigs over manmade structure.

Bass activity diminished this week as anglers were also victims of the disgruntled weather patterns. Some fishermen are tossing shad colored crankbaits around gravel points and shorelines and picking up a few while others continue to stalk grassbeds with topwater and suspending jerkbaits.

The fishing scene may cool off a bit this weekend but look for moderate conditions to return by the middle of next week before turkey day arrives.

END

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